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OF AUSTRALIA

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NAA: A1838, 151/11/41 PART 1

Series number: A1838

Control symbol: 151/11/41 PART 1

Barcode: 587928

Number of pages: 20

Southern Yemen. Relations with Muscat and Oman

SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RECORDED.



No. 15/11/41

PART No.

OFFICE/POST CANBERRA

TITLE SOUTHERN YEMEN
- RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES -
MUSCAT AND OMAN

RELATED FILES

PREVIOUS PAPERS

FILE No.

TITLE

SUBSEQUENT PAPERS

ARCHIVAL ACTION

[illegible]

SECRET

STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR DECISION UNDER SECTION 40(5)
OF THE ARCHIVES ACT 1983

Series: A1838

Control: 151/11/41 Part 1

Barcode: 587928

Title: Southern Yemen - Relations with Other Countries - Muscat and Oman

Decision Maker: Andrew Chalmers

Designation: Senior Access Examiner, APS6

Date: 8 September 2016

In accordance with requirements of subsection 8(1) of the *Archives Act 1983* (Cth) (Archives Act), I am a person authorised by the Director-General, pursuant to an Instrument of Delegation, to make a decision in relation to access to the requested record.

Basis for decision

In making my decision, I considered:

- the content of the record requested
- the relevant provisions of the *Archives Act 1983*
- policy and guidelines of National Archives of Australia that relate to the access examination of Commonwealth records
- information provided by other Commonwealth agencies on which I have relied in formulating my decision

Decision

I have decided that this item is OPEN WITH EXCEPTION under section 33(1)(a) of the Archives Act for the reasons set out below.

Folios 9-10 are partially exempt.

The findings of facts

Section 33(1)(a) of the Archives Act provides that:

information or matter the disclosure of which under this Act could reasonably be expected to cause damage to the security, defence or international relations of the Commonwealth.

This record contains:

- Information that could affect Commonwealth relations with the current government of a foreign country.

Reasons for decision

- Public disclosure of this information would reasonably be expected to cause resentment and possible retaliation on the part of foreign governments, and thus damage Australia's international relations.
- International relations are dependent on the adequate flow of information between one country and another. If sensitive information were disclosed, it could lessen the confidence of a foreign government in the Australian government and thus damage Australia's international relations.

Review of decision

The National Archives of Australia (the Archives) carefully examines records before deciding to exempt any part of them. As part of that process we may consult with other agencies which have expertise on specific national and international matters.

If you do not agree with the decision, you can formally appeal within 28 days of receiving:

1. by first applying to the Archives for an internal reconsideration of my decision; and
2. if you still do not agree with the decision, you can apply to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal for a review.

For more information please read the **National Archives Fact Sheet 12** *What to do if we refuse you access* (www.naa.gov.au/about-us/publications/fact-sheets/fs12.aspx).

F → 15/11/41.
11 (10)

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

CA1

I.99502

FROM

TOD 01.10.71...1055 LT

AUSTRALIAN MISSION TO UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK

TOR 02.10.71...0103 LT

UN.759 UNCLASSIFIED

ADMISSION OF OMAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

ON 30 SEPTEMBER 1971, THE SECURITY COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY
ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF ITS
ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE:

BEGINS:

THE SECURITY COUNCIL, (UNDERLINED)
HAVING EXAMINED (UNDERLINE TWO) THE APPLICATION OF OMAN FOR
ADMISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS (S/10216), (UNDERLINE IN BRACKETS)
RECOMMENDS (UNDERLINED) TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT OMAN BE
ADMITTED TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNITED NATIONS.

ENDS...

THE PDR OF YEMEN INTERVENED TO REITERATE THEIR OPPOSITION
TO OMAN'S MEMBERSHIP.

A/FOREIGN MINISTER
DEPT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
MIN AND DEPT DEFENCE
JIO
PMS

ACTION: UNIA

SEC	DEPSEC(A)	A/DEPSEC(B)	PR	LA	FAS(A)	NA	SA	SEA
FAS(PW)	PC	EAME	FAS(DEF)	DP	IC	FAS(DVP)	ICR	FAS(IO)
UNIA	SAS(LGL)	LTB	UNL	FAS(MS)				

CAIRO DAR ES SALAAM ISLAMABAD TEHERAN TEL AVIV



file 151/11/41

UPI-114

SOUTHYEMEN 4/7

ADEN (UPI)-- THE REPUBLIC OF THE SOUTHERN YEMEN SUNDAY NIGHT LAUNCHED AN ATTACK AGAINST THE LEADER OF THE BRITISH CONSERVATIVE PARTY AND BRITISH NEAR-EAST POLICY.

PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER FAISAL ABDULLA ALL SHHABI ACCUSED TORY LEADER EDWARD HEATH AND BRITAIN IN GENERAL OF SEEKING TO SEIZE POWER IN THE ARABIAN GULF SHEIKHDOMS AND STAYING THERE TO EXPLOIT OIL RESOURCES.

AL SHABBI WAS COMMENTING ON HEATH'S CURRENT VISIT TO IRAN, PART OF A TOUR OF THE MIDDLE EAST.

HE SAID NO MATTER WHICH PARTY RULES BRITAIN, THE COUNTRY WILL CONTINUE AN +IMPERIALIST+ POLICY IN THE GULF AREA AIMED AT CONTROLLING OIL WEALTH AND RETAINING MILITARY BASES.

HE ADDED BRITAIN PLANS TO DESTROY THE GULF'S ARABIC CHARACTER AND +CREATE ANOTHER PALESTINE BY COORDINATING POLICY WITH OTHER POWERS INTERESTED IN THE GULF REGION.+

THE PRIME MINISTER URGED SUPPORT FOR THE LIBERATION MOVEMENT IN THE GULF AREA AND SAID +ONLY THE GULF PEOPLE SHOULD DECIDE THE AREA'+

7 (6)
CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CONFIDENTIAL 24 NOV 67

FROM LONDON

TO RR WELLINGTON 5641

RPTD RR NEW YORK 149

file 151/11/41

*PR South Yemen file as with
Marsden
Owen*

SOUTH ARABIA

NEW YORKS 322 (716 TO WELLINGTON). FOREIGN OFFICE CONFIRMED TO US THAT THE BRITISH HAD CONSULTED THE INHABITANTS OF THE KURIA MURIA ISLANDS WHO HAD EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO JOIN OMAN, AND THAT THESE ISLAND WILL THEREFORE NOT RPT NOT FORM A PART OF INDEPENDENT SOUTH ARABIA. LORD SHACKLETON HAS ALREADY TOLD THE NLF DELEGATION IN GENEVA ABOUT THIS PROPOSAL, AND THEY TOOK IT RATHER BADLY.

2. PERIM AND KAMARAN ARE TO BE INCORPORATED IN SOUTH ARABIA ACCORDING TO THE WISHES OF THEIR INHABITANTS. BLATHERWICK, THE DESM OFFICER, CONFIRMED THAT THE IDEA OF INTERNATIONALISING PERIM HAD BEEN REJECTED BY THE UNITED NATIONS AND DROPPED BY THE BRITISH - NOT RPT NOT THAT THEY HAD SERIOUSLY EXPECTED ANY OTHER RESULT.

3. FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF THESE DISPOSITIONS IS TO BE MADE ON MONDAY. ✓

4. LORD SHACKLETON RETURNED TODAY FOR CONSULTATIONS. THE PAPERS SUGGEST THAT HE IS TO DISCUSS THE QUESTION OF AID TO SOUTH ARABIA., BLATHERWICK SAID THIS WAS NOT RPT NOT THE CASE AND HE HAD IN FACT RETURNED TO DISCUSS THE REFORM OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS - THOUGH HE DID CONSULT WITH THE FOREIGN SECRETARY. WE GAINED THE IMPRESSION, HOWEVER, THAT THE NEGOTIATORS IN GENEVA HAVE NOT RPT NOT YET COME TO GRIPS WITH THE PROBLEM OF FUTURE AID.

U.35517
PRIME MINISTER
SECRETARY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RECD: 242245Z NOV 67

DEPUTY

M. K. H. H.
CONFIDENTIAL

11/18/85





CABLE ADDRESS
AUSTUNAT, NEW YORK
TELEPHONE
YUKON 6-7676

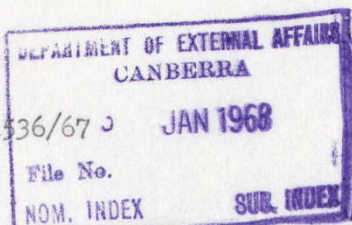
AUSTRALIAN MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
750 THIRD AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

20th December, 1967.

File No. 606/15

Memorandum No. 1536/67 J

The Secretary,
Department of External Affairs
Canberra A.C.T.



151/11/41
(copy & attachments
sent to U.N.
Branch to return)
MLG

South Yemen

....

Attached to this memorandum is a copy of a note from the Secretary-General enclosing a communication, dated the 3rd December, 1967, from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen. The communication criticises the British Government for transferring the small Kuria Muria Islands to the Sultan of Muscat when Aden got its independence on the 30 November.

2. As reported in our telegrams 2009 and 2027, the Fourth Committee on the 29 November, and the Plenary meeting on the 30th, adopted a consensus on Aden which said that the territorial integrity of the territory should be preserved. The intention was to make sure that all the islands which had been administered from Aden should be handed over to the new Government of Southern Yemen.

3. The five islands which comprised Kuria Muria have a total population of seventy-eight. They are some hundreds of miles from Aden and are only about twenty miles off the coast of Muscat. They seem to be something of a back-water, even by the standards of South Arabia, but the British decision to hand them back to Muscat was hotly criticised by all the Arabs in the Assembly, and clearly annoyed the new government of Southern Yemen. Quite possibly the last has not been heard of this issue.

ENCLOSURES ATTACHED

~~MR KIRKLEY~~

PLEASE DESTROY DUPLICATE COPY
AND ATTACHMENT IF NOT REQUIRED

KHR/jc

K.H. Rogers
Minister



F

5 (4)

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
INWARD CABLEGRAM

15/11/41
Mr Kossak - Registry
for the new file on
South Yemen (ex ~~S. Arabia~~ Aden) -
relations with

CD:

I. 83608 Muscat + ~~Oman~~
Oman

FROM:

DATED: 14TH DECEMBER, 1967. *MLL*
1750 LT.

AUSTRALIAN MISSION TO UNITED NATIONS,
NEW YORK.

REC'D: 15TH DECEMBER, 1967.
1841 LT.

UN. 2292. UNCLASSIFIED.

ADDRESSED CANBERRA UN.2292, REPEATED WASHINGTON.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY - SOUTHERN YEMEN.

OUR 2246.

ASSEMBLY THIS MORNING 14TH DECEMBER ADOPTED BY ACCLAMATION
A RESOLUTION ADMITTING THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF SOUTHERN YEMEN
TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNITED NATIONS.

IRAQ, INDIA, UNITED KINGDOM, UAR, PAKISTAN, VENEZUELA,
SUDAN, ALBANIA, FRANCE, UNITED STATES, POLAND, SOMALIA, ICELAND,
AFGHANISTAN, TANZANIA, IRAN, DOMINICA AND YEMEN SPOKE IN WELCOME.

2. THE TANZANIAN STATEMENT WAS A STRONG ATTACK ON BRITISH
COLONIAL POLICY.

YEMEN QUOTED THE PRIME MINISTER OF YEMEN IN FAVOUR OF UNI-
FICATION OF THE TWO REPUBLICS OF YEMEN AND SOUTHERN YEMEN.

3. THE SOUTHERN YEMEN FOREIGN MINISTER THEN SPOKE.

HE PAID A COMPLIMENT TO THE ADENIS WHO HAD DIED FIGHTING FOR
INDEPENDENCE, AND THANKED THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANS AND REPRE-
SENTATIVES WHICH HAD BEEN OF ASSISTANCE.

HE THANKED IN PARTICULAR THE "PEOPLES OF AFRICA AND ASIA
AND OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, AND ESPECIALLY THE ARAB NATION".

THE PEOPLE OF SOUTHERN YEMEN HAD TRIED FOR YEARS TO CONVINCE
BRITAIN PEACEFULLY OF THEIR RIGHT TO INDEPENDENCE, BUT WITHOUT
SUCCESS, AND THEY HAD THEREFORE HAD TO TURN TO ARMED STRUGGLE
TO FREE AND UNIFY SOUTHERN YEMEN.

NOW THEY WERE INDEPENDENT THEY WOULD NOT REST UNTIL OTHER
OPPRESSED PEOPLE WERE INDEPENDENT ALSO, AND IN PURSUIT OF THIS
PRINCIPLE WOULD DO WHATEVER WAS REQUIRED.

THEY WOULD EXTEND HELP PARTICULARLY TO THE PALESTINE PEOPLE
AND TO "ANY ARAB PEOPLE THAT IS NOT FREE".

4

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
INWARD CABLEGRAM

CD:

-2-

I. 83608

THEY WOULD WORK TOWARDS ARAB UNITY AND IN THE FIRST PLACE THE UNITY OF YEMEN, NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN.

THE KURIA MURIA ISLANDS WERE A RIGHTFUL PART OF SOUTHERN YEMEN, WHICH COULD NOT RECOGNISE BRITAIN'S ACTION IN GIVING THEM TO MUSCAT.

IN FOREIGN POLICY SOUTHERN YEMEN WOULD FOLLOW A POLICY OF "POSITIVE NEUTRALITY AND NON-ALIGNMENT", IN COOPERATION WITH THE AFRO-ASIAN COUNTRIES.

INTERNALLY THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CARRY OUT A "PROGRESSIVE REVOLUTIONARY" PROGRAMME.

AID WOULD BE NEEDED FOR THIS, AND SOUTHERN YEMEN WOULD BE GLAD TO ACCEPT AID FROM ANY SOURCES, PROVIDED ONLY THAT IT WAS WITHOUT STRINGS.

MIN. AND DEPT OF E.A.
MIN. AND DEPT OF DEFENCE
P.M.'S

16TH DECEMBER, 1967.

SEC	DEP SEC	FAS(1)	AS(JIC)	SEA	DL	INT	FAS(2)	UN
PACAM	AMSP	PPO	FAS(3)	FAS(4)	EAMEC	AFME	ICR	PIO

ИМАТО СУНЕСУВИ

САНКТ-ПЕТЕРБУРГСКАЯ



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

KAN

FROM:

AUSTRALIAN MISSION TO UNITED NATIONS,
NEW YORK.

DATED: 30TH NOVEMBER, 1967.
2020 LT.

REC'D: 1ST DECEMBER, 1967.
1308 LT.

UN.2027

RESTRICTED.

ADDRESSED CANBERRA UN.2027, REPEATED WASHINGTON,
LONDON (EXTERNAL) 789.

ADEN.

OUR TELEGRAM 2009.

THE CONSENSUS ADOPTED AT FOURTH COMMITTEES MEETING ON
29TH NOVEMBER WAS INCLUDED IN A REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE WHICH
WAS CONSIDERED IN PLENARY ON 30TH NOVEMBER.

THE REPORT MENTIONED THE RESERVATIONS CONCERNING THE
CONSENSUS MADE BY THE UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES,
FRANCE, ITALY, ISRAEL AND AUSTRALIA.

2. IN PLENARY THE BRITISH REPRESENTATIVE (CARADON) SAID HE
HAD ONE RESERVATION ABOUT ONE SECTION OF THE CONSENSUS.

HE THEN READ OUT AN ANNOUNCEMENT MADE IN THE HOUSE OF
COMMONS TODAY BY THE FOREIGN SECRETARY WHICH SAID THAT THE
INHABITANTS OF THE OFF-SHORE ISLANDS HAD BEEN CONSULTED ABOUT
THEIR FUTURE DURING THE PAST TWO MONTHS WITH THE RESULT THAT
PERIM AND KAMARAN AND SUKOTRA WOULD GO WITH THE NEW STATE OF
SOUTH YEMEN.

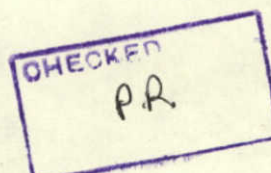
KURAI MURIA WOULD REVERT TO MUSCAT.

THE 78 PEOPLE OF THE FIVE ISLANDS OF KURIA MURIA AND
NEVER BEEN A PART OF SOUTH ARABIA AND HAVING BEEN CONSULTED
RECENTLY, THEY SAID THEY WANTED TO RETURN TO MUSCAT.

AGREEMENT HAD BEEN MADE TODAY FOR THE TRANSFER OF
SOVEREIGNTY OVER KURIA MURIA TO MUSCAT.

3. BRITAIN HAD WANTED TO INTER-NATIONALIZE PERIM BUT NEITHER
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL NOR THE SPECIAL MISSION ON ADEN HAD LIKED
THE IDEA.

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RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
INWARD CABLEGRAM

KAN

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I.79921

ALL THE ARAB DELEGATIONS TO THE UNITED NATIONS HAD BEEN OPPOSED AND NOW THE INHABITANTS HAD SAID THEY WANTED TO JOIN SOUTH YEMEN.

4. BRITISH DELEGATION HAD NOT BEEN IN A POSITION TO REVEAL ALL THIS UNTIL TODAY BECAUSE IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A BREACH OF CONFIDENCE OF THE GENEVA NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT.

5. IRAQ, SUDAN, TANZANIA, SYRIA AND MALI CRITICIZED THE BRITISH STATEMENT.

IRAQ SAID THAT LAST YEARS ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 2183 WHICH THE BRITISH HAD SUPPORTED HAD SAID THAT THE TERRITORY OF ADEN INCLUDED ALL THE OFF-SHORE ISLANDS AND THAT THE BRITISH IN DECIDING AT THE LAST MINUTE TO CONSULT THE INHABITANTS WERE REALLY ONLY TRYING TO TRANSFER THE ISLANDS TO A TERRITORY STILL UNDER BRITISH DOMINATIONS.

6. THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL REPEATED THEIR RESERVATIONS TO THE CONSENSUS.

7. AT SUGGESTION OF THE PRESIDENT, THE CONSENSUS WAS ADOPTED WITHOUT ANY FORMAL VOTE.

WE DID NOT THINK IT NECESSARY TO MAKE A RESERVATION BECAUSE THE FOURTH COMMITTEES REPORT NOTED THAT WE HAD DONE THIS WHEN THE CONSENSUS WAS ADOPTED IN THE COMMITTEE.

MIN. & DEPT E.A.
MIN. & DEPT TERRITORIES
A.G. & DEPT.
P.M. 'S

1ST NOVEMBER, 1967.

SEC	FAS(1)	AS(JIC)	SEA	DL	INT	FAS(2)	UN@	PACAM	
AMSP	PPO	FAS(3)	FAS(4)	EAMEC	E	AFME	C	CR	L&T
ICR	PIO								LA

RESTRICTED - UNITED STATES - RESTRICTED

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

FILE No.

DATE

5/12/67

SUBJECT

People's Republic of Southern Yemen

Mr Kossack
FOR
Registry

Could you please start a new file with this in the 151/11 141> series — "Relations with MUSCAT & OMAN" & let me know the number.
Aden & South Arabia

have now become an independent state, under the title above. When you get time, could you amend the title on the files? With any files that are fairly full, it would be a good opportunity to begin a fresh part.

J Kestley
AFME

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
INWARD CABLEGRAM

BKP

I.80341

FROM:

DATED: 2ND DECEMBER, 1967.
1745 LT

AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION,
LONDON.

REC'D: 3RD DECEMBER, 1967.
0430 LT

15382. CONFIDENTIAL. PRIORITY.

ADDRESSED CANBERRA 15382, REPEATED AUSTUNAT NEW YORK 175,
SAVINGRAM CAIRO, WASHINGTON.

FROM EXTERNAL

SOUTH YEMEN *

OUR TELEGRAMS 15222 AND 15223

2. FOLLOWING INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM BLATHERWICK, ADEN DEPARTMENT.
TALKS IN GENEVA.

3. MAIN POINTS OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN BRITISH AND NLF WERE DISCLOSED
IN THE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT CONCLUSION OF TALKS - OUR TELEGRAM 15223.

4. BRITISH WERE IMPRESSED BY THE SKILL AND INTELLIGENCE OF THE
NLF SPOKESMEN, IN PARTICULAR SIEF AS - DHALI AND QAHAN AS-
SHEABI.

THE DELEGATION WAS VERY WELL BRIEFED AND HAD DONE ITS HOME-
WORK.

THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE TALKS WAS AMICABLE THROUGHOUT AND, IN
APPROACHING PROBLEMS SUCH AS FINANCIAL AID, THE NLF SHOWED
CONSIDERABLE REALISM AND WERE KEEN TO REACH AGREEMENT WHEREVER
POSSIBLE.

5. ON AID IT WAS AGREED THAT BRITAIN WOULD CONTINUE TO PROVIDE
AID AT PRE-INDEPENDENCE LEVELS FOR A SIX MONTH PERIOD. (THIS WILL
AMOUNT TO POUNDS 12 (TWELVE) MILLION).

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CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

INWARD CABLEGRAM

BKP

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I.80341

AFTER THIS PERIOD THE AMOUNT WOULD BE NEGOTIABLE.

THE BRITISH TOLD NLF THAT THEY (THE BRITISH) WOULD THEN CONSIDER AID FOR EACH PROJECT PUT FORWARD TO THEM.

THE NLF'S PRE NEGOTIATION DEMAND FOR MORE THAN POUNDS 60 (SIXTY) MILLION SOON GAVE WAY TO REALISM.

6. THE NLF AGREED TO PROTECT FOREIGN NATIONALS.

BLATHERWICK TOLD US THAT ABOUT 200 BRITISH NATIONALS WERE STAYING ON IN ADEN

SO FAR THE ATMOSPHERE IN ADEN HAD BEEN VERY GOOD.

IT HAD BEEN INTENDED THAT THE BRITISH NAVAL TASK FORCE WOULD BE KEPT OFF-SHORE AT ADEN FOR TWO MONTHS.

BUT IT WAS NOW LIKELY THAT THE FORCE WOULD STAY A MUCH SHORTER PERIOD.

7. THE NLF, BY AGREEING TO ACCEPT THE INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS OF BRITAIN, WERE UNDERSTOOD TO BE ASSURING THE FREEDOM OF PASSAGE OF ALL SHIPPING THROUGH THE STRAITS OF PARIM.

THIS PUT TO REST AN EARLIER THREAT BY AN NLF SPOKESMAN THAT THE NLF WOULD CLOSE THE STRAITS TO ISRAELI SHIPPING.

8. A DISAGREEMENT AROSE OVER THE FATE OF THE KWRIA MWRIA ISLANDS, OFF-SHORE ISLANDS FROM MUSCAT - ABOUT 40 MILES FROM THE COAST AND 200 MILES EAST OF THE MUSCAT SOUTH YEMEN BORDER.

THE ISLANDS HAD BEEN ADMINISTERED FROM ADEN BUT HAD NEVER FORMED PART OF THE ADEN PROTECTORATE.

THE BRITISH ARE HANDING OVER THE ISLANDS TO MUSCAT AND OMAN.

(THEY HAD BEEN CEDED TO QUEEN VICTORIA BY THE SULTAN OF MUSCAT IN 1854).

THE NLF OBJECTED TO THE BRITISH INTENTION AND CLAIMED THAT THE ISLANDS WERE PART OF SOUTH YEMEN.

QAHTAN AS-SHEATR HAS APPOINTED A GOVERNOR OF THE ISLANDS AND HAS PUBLICLY ATTACKED THE BRITISH DECISION.

BLATHERWICK WAS INCLINED TO PLAY DOWN THE NLF'S STAND.

HE THOUGHT IT WAS AN NLF EXERCISE TO DEMONSTRATE TO THE POPULATION AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY THAT THEY WERE FULL OF NATIONALIST FERVOUR.

THERE WAS TOO MUCH ELSE AT STAKE FOR THE NLF TO BREAK WITH BRITAIN OVER THIS.

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

BKP

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I.80341

THE NEW GOVERNMENT.

9. THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF SOUTH YEMEN WAS ANNOUNCED ON 1ST DECEMBER.

DRAWING ON BLATHERWICK AND THE PRESS WE HAVE OBTAINED IMPRESSIONS OF SOME OF THE MINISTERS.

(A) PRIME MINISTER AND SUPREME COMMANDER OF THE ARMED FORCES-

QAHTAN AS -SHAABI - OLDEST MEMBER OF THE CABINET, 47 YEARS. COMES FROM A MINOR SHEIKHLY FAMILY IN LAHEJ STATE.

EDUCATED IN ADEN AND KHARTOUM

IN EARLY 1950'S WORKED AS AN AGRICULTURAL OFFICER IN LAHEJ JOINED SOUTH ARABIAN LEAGUE, PROVED HIMSELF AS AN ORGANISER AND WENT TO CAIRO WHEN THE LEAGUE WAS BANNED IN 1957.

MOVED BETWEEN UAR AND YEMEN FOR SEVERAL YEARS, BROKE WITH CAIRO WHEN HE REFUSED TO JOIN WITH FLOSY.

CREATED NLF IN OCTOBER 1963.

WAS UNDER HOUSE ARREST IN CAIRO FOR ABOUT ONE YEAR BEFORE AUGUST THIS YEAR WHEN HE RETURNED TO SOUTH ARABIA AND RESUMED CONTROL.

HE IS RATHER A FATHER-FIGURE AND HAS STATURE OF A LEADER. HE APPEARS TO HAVE GENUINE ASPIRATIONS FOR THE FUTURE OF SOUTH YEMEN.

(B) FOREIGN AFFAIRS- SEIF DHALI - 36 YEARS OLD, THE MOST INTELLIGENT AND ARTICULATE OF THE GOVERNMENT.

THE CHIEF THEORETICIAN AND, LIKE AS-SHAABI BELIEVED THAT THEIR REVOLUTION SHOULD TAKE POWER BY VIOLENCE.

1961-64 WAS TRAINED IN SURVEYING IN ENGLAND.

WORKED WITH AS-SHAABI IN CAIRO.

(C) DEFENCE- ALI AS-BAIDH - LITTLE IS KNOWN ABOUT HIM.

(D) INTERIOR- ACTING HEALTH MINISTER- MUHAED HAITHAM- FROM THE WESTERN PROTECTORATE.

(E) FINANCE: MAHMOND OSHAISH - A LEADING TRADE UNIONIST. HEADED TRADE UNION AT B P REFINERY. ONLY MEMBER OF CABINET FROM ADEN.

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
INWARD CABLEGRAM

BKP

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I.80341

(F) CULTURE- NATIONAL GUIDANCE- YEMEN UNITY AFFAIRS-
ABDUL AS-JAUJI BLATHERWICK SAID AS-JAUFI WAS AN NLF MUSCLEMAN.
HIS APPOINTMENT TO CULTURAL AFFAIRS COULD BE REGARDED AS
SOMETHING OF A JOKE.

(G) ECONOMY, COMMERCE, PLANNING-
FAISAL AS-SHAABI - COUSIN OF QAHTAN AS-SHAABIM

(L) JUSTICE, RELIGIONS AFFAIRS-
ADEL KHALIFA - A BRITISH TRAINED LAWYER, AN EX-DETAINEE DESCRIBED
BY BLATHERWICK AS TIRESOME.

(C) WORKS AND COMMUNICATIONS
FAISAL SHAMLAN - FROM EAST ADEN PROTECTORATE.

(J) EDUCATION
MUHAMMAD QADER - FORMERLY AN EDUCATION OFFICER IN MUKALLA.

(K) LABOUR AND WELFARE
ABDUL ISMAIL - A WELL KNOWN TERRORIST.

(L) LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ACTING AGRICULTURE AND AGRARIAN REFORM:
SEIYYID AKBARI - EAST ADEN PROTECTORATE.

10. ON THE WHOLE THE FOREIGN OFFICE WAS PLEASED WITH THE SHAPE
OF THE CABINET

THE EAST ADEN PROTECTORATE WAS WELL REPRESENTED WITH THREE
MEMBERS.

IT WAS SURPRISING THAT ADEN HAD ONLY ONE REPRESENTATIVE.

BUT BLATHERWICK SAID THIS COULD BE BALANCED BY THE PREDOMINANCE
OF ADENIS IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

THERE WERE NO ARMY OFFICERS IN THE CABINET.

THE AVERAGE AGE WAS LITTLE OVER THIRTY.

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CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
INWARD CABLEGRAM

BKP

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I.80341

RECOGNITION OF SOUTH YEMEN.

11. BLATHERWICK SAID THAT BRITISH HAD MADE GESTURE OF RECOGNITION WHEN BRITISH CHARGE D'AFFAIRES IN ADEN MET THE NLF PARTY WHEN IT RETURNED FROM GENEVA.

IT WAS INTENDED THAT DOCUMENTS WOULD BE EXCHANGED TODAY (2 DECEMBER) FORMALLY ESTABLISHING RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS.

12. A NUMBER OF OTHER STATES HAD RECOGNISED THE NEW GOVERNMENT BY MEANS OF TELEGRAM - U.A.R. ALGERIA, TUNISIA, IRAQ, SUDAN, ITALY, MALI AND OTHER AFRICAN STATES WERE MENTIONED BY BLATHERWICK.

HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER UNITED STATES HAD.

13. BLATHERWICK EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT AUSTRALIA WOULD SEE FIT TO RECOGNISE THE NEW GOVERNMENT SOON.

GRATEFUL YOUR ADVICE.

14. SOUTH YEMEN WANTS TO JOIN UNITED NATIONS IMMEDIATELY AND WILL APPLY UNDER BRITISH SPONSORSHIP.

BLATHERWICK SAID FOREIGN OFFICE HOPED TO GET THIS UNDER WAY ON MONDAY 4 DECEMBER.

MIN.& DEPT.E.A.
MIN.& DEPT.DEFENCE
A/MIN.& DEPT. T.& I.
TREASURER AND TREASURY
P.M.'S DEPT.
P.M.'S

3RD DECEMBER, 1967,

SEC	FAS(1)	AS(JIC)	SEA	DL	INT	FAS(2)	UN	PACAM	AMSP
PPO	FAS(3)	ER	AID	FAS(4)	EAMEC	E	AFME@	C	CR
ICR	PIO	DEPT.DUTY OFFICER							

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